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research, judicious statement and careful interpretation the book leaves little for criticism. One might complain because the author has chosen to limit the field of study strictly to the more primitive phases of the subject, but this limitation is explained when it is remembered that the study was originally prepared as a doctoral dissertation. The reader is constantly reminded that there has been an unbroken succession from the ancient to the modern secret orders, and perhaps an additional chapter tracing the historical importance of this succession would have given the book greater completeness as well as more well-rounded interest.

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Social Democracy and Population. By ALVAN A. TENNEY. Columbia University Studies in Political Science. (New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1907. Pp. 89. 75c.)

This monograph by Dr. Alvan A. Tenney, tutor in sociology in Columbia University, is an able summary of the biological principles of population in their relation to modern democratic civilization. Dr. Tenney defines social democracy, not as a socialistic régime, a meaning which has become attached to the term through its use by socialistic writers, but, using the words of Lowell, as "that form of society no matter what its political classification in which every man has a chance and knows that he has it." In other words, a social democracy is that type of society which the United States, in particular, has been striving to realize as its ideal during the past century.

Dr. Tenney's inquiry is as to the bearing which the laws of the increase of population and the doctrines of selection and degeneration have upon the maintenance of such a social democracy. He shows that such a type of society can be maintained only on the condition that it regulate its own life process on the biological side; that it requires a rate of population increase less rapid than the rise of the standard of living; that it requires also such control over selective processes as will secure citizens of a high quality and the elimination of the degenerate classes; that such a society must protect itself against both invasions from, and undue com-

petition with, societies of a low standard of living and of a high birth rate.

Dr. Tenney's monograph is a suggestive, though incomplete study of a large subject. In his own words, "A rich claim is here staked out. It awaits methodical development." It is to be hoped that he will undertake its development. Biological sociology is still unwritten in any systematic treatise. When such a treatise is written it must contain important chapters on the relations which the increase of population, heredity, and selection bear to types of society—the topic which is treated in this monograph.

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Sex and Society. Studies in the Social Psychology of Sex. By WILLIAM I. THOMAS. (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1907. Pp. vi, 325. \$1.50 net.)

Although the nine essays included in this volume are more or less independent studies they have a slight bond of unity in the form of a common thesis. The titles of the separate essays are: Organic Differences in the Sexes, Sex and Primitive Social Control, Sex and Social Feeling, Sex and Primitive Industry, Sex and Primitive Morality, The Psychology of Exogamy, The Psychology of Modesty and Clothing, The Adventitious Character of Woman, and The Mind of Woman and the Lower Races. In so far as the author seeks to prove a general thesis it is found in the assertion that the social reactions of sex-difference have arisen from the superior strength and motor activity of the male and the conservatism of the female. In the first place, although male births outnumber the female in the aggregate, female births are in excess when there is an abundance of nourishment and where outbreeding rather than inbreeding is the practice. A rise of food prices leads to an increase of male births, as Saxon and Prussian statistics show. As a derivative type the male is more variable, and this largely because of his greater activity. He is therefore more subject to serious mental and physical disorders. Woman's "anabolic surplus" enables her to meet serious or sudden emergencies with less danger of disaster. Her lack of specialized